

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

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R 110045Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6712

INFO USIA

UNCLAS MEXICO 10279

USIA FOR ILA

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR ELAB MX

SUBJECT: COVERAGE OF AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON DEPORTATION OF ILLEGALS

1. MEXICO DAILIES OF AUGUST 10 GAVE WIDESPREAD AND POSITIVE COVERAGE TO AMBASSADOR'S IMPROMPTU RESPONSES TO THE PRESS ON RECENT REPORTS OF "MASSIVE" DEPORTATIONS OF ILLEGAL MEXICANS FROM THE US.
SEVERAL PAPERS, INCLUDING EXCELSIOR, FRONT-PAGED THE AMBASSADOR'S WORDS AND EVEN LEFTIST EL DIA, USUALLY STRIDENTLY ANTI-US, PUBLISHED A STRAIGHT-FORWARD REPORT.

2. THEMES WHICH RECEIVED THE GREATEST EMPHASIS WERE:
A) THE AMBASSADOR'S DENIAL THAT THE CURRENT DEPORTATION IS A POLITICAL MOVE AGAINST MEXICO AND AFFIRMATION THAT THE REPATRIATION FLIGHTS WILL NOT HURT THE STRONG RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS; AND
B) THAT IF THE TREATMENT OF THE ILLEGAL BRACEROS WERE SO BAD, THERE WOULD NOT BE SO MANY MEXICANS TRYING TO ENTER THE US(AMBASSADOR QUOTED A FIGURE GIVEN BY A MEXICAN OFFICIAL), AND
C) THAT THE NUMBER OF ILLEGALS BEING DEPORTED IS MINIMAL IN RELATION TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ILLEGALS IN THE US.

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3. AN EXCELSIOR EDITORIAL OF THE SAME DAY CALLED FOR

THE INCLUSION OF THIS PROBLEM ON ANY AGENDA OF THE PRO-
POSED MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT-ELECT
JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO.
JOVA

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NNN

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